

four-year and two-year degrees are not eligible for HSI-WSP.

Recipient means an approved applicant that executes a grant agreement with HUD.

Student means a person attending the institution of higher education on a full-time basis, as defined by that institution and pursuing an eligible community building degree. Students must have attained no more than half of the credits required for their degree at the time they first receive assistance under HSI-WSP.

Student with disabilities means a student who meets the definition of a "person with disabilities" in the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

(c) *Assistance provided*—(1) *Types of assistance available.* HUD provides funding in the form of grants to recipients who make assistance available to eligible students. Grants are provided to cover the costs of student assistance and for an administrative allowance.

(2) *Maximum amount of assistance.* The maximum amount that can be provided to a student is \$13,200 a year, including \$1,000 for an administrative allowance, subject to the 20% limitation described at 570.416(c)(4) below. HUD will not set maximums on how much should be spent to each eligible expenditure, other than for administrative costs. The institution must be able to document that the amounts paid are customary for that institution and that it has actually paid that amount to the students. If a student is receiving a Pell grant, he/she may not receive funding for the same educational support through HSI-WSP. However, HSI-WSP can substitute for all or part of the Pell grant.

(3) *Student assistance.* Grants are provided in the form of student stipends, tuition support, and additional support.

(i) *Student stipend.* The amount of the student stipend should be based on the hourly rate for initial entry positions in the community building field and the number of hours worked by the student at the work placement assignment. The stipend should be sufficiently high to allow the student to earn the full stipend, as determined by the recipient, without working over 20 hours per week during the school year

and 40 hours per week during the summer.

(ii) *Tuition support.* The amount of tuition support may not exceed the tuition and required fees charged at the participating institution of higher education.

(iii) *Additional support.* The recipient may provide additional support for books, tutoring, and travel related to the academic program or work placement assignment. Costs associated with reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities including, but not limited to, interpreters for the deaf/hard of hearing, special equipment, and braille materials are eligible under this category.

(4) *Administrative allowance.* HUD provides an allowance to recipients to cover the administrative costs of the program. The administrative allowance is \$1,000 per year for each student participating in the program; however, no more than 20 percent of the grant may be used for planning and program administrative costs.

(5) *Number of students assisted.* The minimum number of students that may be assisted is three students per participating institution of higher education. The maximum number of students that may be assisted is ten students per participating institution of higher education; however, a lower maximum or higher minimum may be established for a particular funding round by the NOFA announcing the availability of the funds.

(d) *Recipient eligibility and responsibilities*—(1) *Recipient eligibility.* Public or private Hispanic-serving institutions of higher education offering only undergraduate two-year degrees, including degrees in at least one community building academic program, are eligible for assistance under HSI-WSP. HSIs that offer BOTH two-year and four-year degrees are not eligible for HSI-WSP assistance.

(2) *Recipient responsibilities.* The recipient is responsible for administering the program, for compliance with all program requirements, and for coordination of program activities carried out by the work placement agencies. The recipient must:

(i) Recruit students for participation in HSI-WSP. The recipient shall establish recruitment procedures that identify eligible economically disadvantaged and minority students pursuing careers in community building, and make them aware of the availability of assistance opportunities. While the program is restricted to HSIs, the recipient may neither restrict the program to any particular minority group or groups, nor provide any preferential treatment in the selection process based on race or ethnicity. Only economically disadvantaged students, as defined herein, may be assisted.

(ii) Select students for participation in HSI-WSP. In selecting among the eligible students, the recipient must consider the extent to which each student has demonstrated financial need under the applicable guidelines established at the institution of higher education; an interest in, and commitment to, a career in community building; and the ability to satisfactorily complete the academic and work placement responsibilities under HSI-WSP. Students must be selected before the beginning of the semester for which funding is being provided. If a student's participation terminates, the student may not be replaced; the grant will be reduced by the amount of unused funds allotted for that student.

(iii) Provide the educational component for participating students.

(iv) Recruit and select work placement agencies, and negotiate and execute an agreement covering each work placement assignment.

(v) Refer participating students to work placement agencies and assist students in the selection of work placement assignments.

(vi) Assign sufficient staff to administer and supervise the program on a day-to-day basis.

(vii) Encourage participating students to either: obtain post-graduation employment with a unit of State or local government, an area-wide planning organization (APO), Indian tribe or nonprofit organization engaged in community building; or transfer to a four-year institution of higher education to obtain a bachelor's degree in a community building academic discipline.

(viii) Maintain records by racial and ethnic categories for each economically disadvantaged and minority student participating in HSI-WSP.

(ix) Keep records and make such reports as HUD may require.

(x) Comply with all other applicable Federal requirements.

(e) *Work placement agencies eligibility and responsibilities*—(1) *Eligibility*. To be eligible to participate in HSI-WSP, the work placement agency must be an agency of a State or local government, an APO, an Indian tribe, or a private nonprofit organization involved in community building activities. A work placement site that is part of the institution of higher education (e.g., a child care center) can only be an eligible site if the services provided by that site are offered to people in the broader community outside the institution.

(2) *Responsibilities*. Work placement agencies must:

(i) Provide practical experience and training in the community building field to participating students through work placement assignments.

(ii) Consult with the institution of higher education to ensure that the student's work placement assignment provides the requisite experience and training to meet the required number of work hours specified in the student work placement agreement.

(iii) Provide a sufficient number and variety of work assignments to provide participating students with a wide choice of work experience.

(iv) Require each student to devote 12-20 hours per week during the regular school year, and 35-40 hours a week during the summer, to the work placement assignment. Work placement agencies may provide flexibility in the work period, if such a schedule is consistent with the requirements of the student's academic program. However, a participating student may receive a stipend payment only during the period when the student is placed with the work placement agency.

(v) Comply with all other applicable Federal requirements.

(vi) Maintain such records as HUD may require.

(f) *Student eligibility and responsibilities*. Students apply directly to recipients receiving grants under HSI-WSP.

(1) *Eligibility.* To be eligible for HSI-WSP, the student:

(i) Must satisfy all applicable guidelines established at the participating institution of higher education to measure financial need for academic scholarship or loan assistance.

(ii) Must be a full-time student enrolled in a community building associate degree program at the participating institution of higher education. The student must have attained no more than 50 percent of the credits required for his/her degree at the time the student first receives assistance under this program.

(iii) Must demonstrate an ability to maintain a satisfactory level of performance in community building academic program (i.e., maintain a B average, as defined by the institution) and in work placement assignments, and comply with the professional standards set by the recipient and the work placement agencies.

(iv) May not have previously participated in HSI-WSP.

(2) *Student responsibilities.* Participating students must:

(i) Enroll or be enrolled in a two-year community building associate degree program. A student's academic and work placement responsibilities include: Full-time enrollment in an approved academic program; maintenance of a satisfactory level of performance in the community building academic program and in work placement assignments; and compliance with the professional conduct standards set by the recipient and by the work placement agency. A satisfactory level of academic performance consists of maintaining a B average, as defined by the institution. A student's participation in HSI-WSP shall be terminated for failure to meet these responsibilities and standards. If the student's participation is terminated, the student is ineligible for further HSI-WSP assistance.

(ii) Devote 12-20 hours per week during the regular school year, and 35-40 hours a week during the summer, to the work placement assignment. Work placement agencies may provide flexibility in the work period, if such a schedule is consistent with the requirements of the student's academic pro-

gram. However, a participating student may receive a stipend payment only during the period when the student is placed with the work placement agency.

(iii) Agree to make a good-faith effort to either: obtain employment in community building with a unit of State or local government, an APO, an Indian tribe, or a non-profit organization; or to transfer to a four-year institution of higher education to obtain a bachelor's degree in a community building academic discipline. However, if the student does not obtain such employment or transfer to a four-year institution, the student is not required to repay the assistance received.

(g) *Notice of funding availability.* HUD will solicit grant applications from eligible institutions of higher education by publishing a notice of funding availability in the FEDERAL REGISTER. The notice will:

(1) Explain how application kits providing specific application requirements and guidance may be obtained;

(2) Specify the place for filing completed applications, and the date by which applications must be physically received at that location;

(3) State the amount of funding available under the notice, which may include funds recaptured from previously awarded grants;

(4) Provide other appropriate program information and guidance.

(h) *Agreements.*—(1) *Grant agreement.* The responsibilities of the recipient under HSI-WSP will be incorporated in a grant agreement executed by HUD and the recipient.

(2) *Student agreement.* The recipient and each participating student must execute a written agreement incorporating their mutual responsibilities under HSI-WSP. The agreement must be executed before the student can be enrolled in the program. The Recipient shall terminate a student's participation in HSI-WSP for failure to meet the responsibilities and standards in the agreement.

(3) *Work placement assignment agreement.* The recipient, the student, and the work placement agency must execute a written agreement covering each work placement assignment. The

agreement must address the responsibilities of each of the parties, the educational objectives, the nature of the supervision, the standards of evaluation, and the student's time commitments under the work placement assignment.

(i) *Grant administration*—(1) *Initial obligation of funds*. When HUD selects an application for funding, HUD will obligate funds to cover the amount of the approved grant. The term of the award will be for two calendar years, unless subsequently altered by HUD at its discretion for good cause.

(2) *Disbursement*. Recipients will receive grant payments by direct deposit on a reimbursement basis. If that is not possible, grant payments will be made by U.S. Treasury checks.

(3) *Deobligation*. HUD may deobligate amounts for grants if proposed activities are not begun or completed within a reasonable period of time after selection.

(j) *Other Federal requirements*—(1) *Applicability of part 570*. HSI-WSP shall be subject to the policies and procedures set forth in subparts A, K, and O of 24 CFR part 570, as applicable, except as modified or limited under the provisions of this Notice. The provisions of subparts C and J of part 570 shall not apply to HSI-WSP.

(2) *Uniform Administrative requirements*. Recipients under HSI-WSP shall comply with the requirements and standards of OMB Circular No. A-22, "Cost Principles for Educational Institutions." Recipients that are private institutions of higher education shall comply with OMB Circular A-133, "Non-Federal Audit Requirements for Institutions of Higher Education and Other Nonprofit Institutions," which is implemented at 24 CFR part 45. Recipients that are public institutions of higher education shall comply with OMB Circular A-128, "Non-Federal Audit Requirements for State and Local Governments," which is implemented at 24 CFR part 44. Audits shall be conducted annually. In addition, all recipients under HSI-WSP shall comply with the provisions of OMB Circular A-110, "Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Agreements With Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals and Other Non-Profit

Organizations," which is implemented at 24 CFR part 84. OMB Circular A-110 shall apply to recipients in its entirety.

[62 FR 17493, Apr. 9, 1997, as amended at 63 FR 9683, Feb. 25, 1998]

Subpart F—Small Cities Program

SOURCE: 62 FR 62914, Nov. 25, 1997, unless otherwise noted.

§ 570.420 General.

(a) *HUD administration of nonentitlement CDBG funds*. Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 permits each State to elect to administer all aspects of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program annual fund allocation for the nonentitlement areas within its jurisdiction. This subpart sets forth policies and procedures applicable to grants for nonentitlement areas in States that have not elected, in a manner and time prescribed by the Secretary, to administer the CDBG Program. States that elected to administer the program after the close of fiscal year 1984 cannot return administration of the program to HUD. A decision by a State to discontinue administration of the program would result in the loss of CDBG funds for nonentitlement areas in that State and the reallocation of those funds to all States in the succeeding fiscal year.

(b) *Scope and applicability*. (1) This subpart describes the policies and procedures of the Small Cities Program which apply to nonentitlement areas in States where HUD administers the CDBG Program. HUD currently administers the Small Cities Program in only two States—New York and Hawaii. This subpart principally addresses the requirements for New York, and §§ 570.429 and 570.430 identify special procedures applicable to Hawaii.

(2) The allocation of formula CDBG funds for use in nonentitlement areas of Hawaii and New York is as provided in subpart A of this part. The policies and procedures set forth in the following identified subparts of this part 570 apply to the HUD-administered Small Cities Program, except as modified or limited under the provisions thereof or this subpart:

§ 570.421

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- (i) Subpart A—General Provisions;
- (ii) Subpart C—Eligible Activities;
- (iii) Subpart J—Grant Administration;
- (iv) Subpart K—Other Program Requirements; and
- (v) Subpart O—Performance Reviews.

(c) *Public notification requirements.* (1) Section 102 of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Reform Act of 1989 (42 U.S.C. 3545) contains a number of provisions that are designed to ensure greater accountability and integrity in the provision of certain types of assistance administered by HUD. All competitive grants in the HUD-administered Small Cities Program in New York are affected by this legislation, and the requirements identified at 24 CFR part 4 apply to them. Imminent threat grants under § 570.424 and section 108 repayment grants under § 570.432 are not affected by section 102 as they are not competitive grants.

(2) The Hawaii HUD-administered Small Cities Program is not subject to section 102, since the funds are not distributed in a competitive manner.

(d) *Abbreviated consolidated plan.* Applications for the HUD-administered Small Cities Program which contain housing activities must include a certification that the proposed housing activities are consistent with the applicant's consolidated plan as described at 24 CFR part 91.

(e) *National and primary objectives.* (1) Each activity funded through the Small Cities Program must meet one of the following national objectives as defined under the criteria in § 570.208. Each activity must:

- (i) Benefit low- and moderate-income families;
- (ii) Aid in the prevention or elimination of slums or blight; or
- (iii) Be an activity which the grantee certifies is designed to meet other community development needs having a particular urgency because existing conditions pose a serious and immediate threat to the health or welfare of the community where other financial resources are not available to meet such needs.

(2) In addition to the objectives described in paragraph (e)(1) of this section, with respect to grants made through the Small Cities Program, not

less than 70 percent of the total of grant funds from each grant and Section 108 loan guarantee funds received under subpart M of this part within a fiscal year must be expended for activities which benefit low- and moderate-income persons under the criteria of §§ 570.208(a), or 570.208(d) (5) or (6). In the case of multiyear plans in New York State approved in response to NOFAs published prior to calendar year 1997, not less than 70 percent of the total funding for grants approved pursuant to a multiyear plan for a time period of up to 3 years must be expended for activities which benefit low- and moderate-income persons. Thus, 70 percent of the grant for year 1 of a multiyear plan approved in response to NOFAs published prior to calendar year 1997 must meet the 70 percent requirement, 70 percent of the combined grants from years 1 and 2 must meet the requirement, and 70 percent of the combined grants from years 1, 2, and 3 must meet the requirement. In determining the percentage of funds expended for such activity, the provisions of § 570.200(a)(3) (i), (iii), (iv), and (v) shall apply.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 2506-0060).

§ 570.421 New York Small Cities Program design.

(a) *Selection system*—(1) *Competitive applications.* Each competitive application will be rated and scored against at least the following factors:

(i) Need-absolute number of persons in poverty as further explained in the NOFA;

(ii) Need-percent of persons in poverty as further explained in the NOFA;

(iii) Program Impact; and

(iv) Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, which may include the applicant's Section 3 plan and implementation efforts with respect to actions to affirmatively further fair housing. The NOFA described in paragraph (b) of this section will contain a more detailed description of these factors, and the relative weight that each factor will be given.

(2) In addition HUD reserves the right to establish minimal thresholds